

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 14-26 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-4 and 14-18 are canceled, and claims 5 and 25 are amended by this Response and Amendment. No new matter is added by this Response and Amendment. Entry of these amendments is hereby requested.

With Respect to the Election/Restriction, Paragraph 3 of the Office Action:

Claims 14-18 have been withdrawn from further consideration for the reasons indicated in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. In response, claims 14-18 have been canceled by this Response and Amendment.

With Respect to the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), Paragraphs 6-7 of the Office Action:

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for the reasons indicated in paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Office Action. In response, claims 1-4 have been canceled.

With Respect to the Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103, Paragraphs 8-9 of the Office Action:

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for the reasons indicated in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Office Action. In response, claims 1-4 have been canceled.

With Respect to the Claim Objections, Paragraph 10 of the Office Action:

Claims 5-7 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. In response, claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of originally filed claim 1. Claims 6 and 7 are dependent on claim 5. Therefore, claims 5-7 are now believed to be allowable.

With Respect to the Claim Objections, Paragraph 11 of the Office Action:

Claim 25 stands objected to as being improperly dependent on claim 17 as stated in paragraph 11 of the Office Action. In response, claim 25 has been amended to be dependent on claim 22. Therefore, claim 25 is now believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

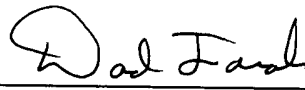
For the reasons stated above, the Applicant respectfully believes that all pending claims, claims 5-7 and 19-26, are believed to be in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. If, however, there remain any issues that can be resolved by telephone with the Applicants representative, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned directly.

If any extension of time is required, such extension is hereby requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication, if such fees are due, to Deposit Account No. 19-2090.

Respectfully submitted,

SHELDON & MAK PC

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